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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE 2  
RESOLUTION BY CHAIRPERSON JOHNSON) 3

A Concurrent Resolution to express support for the 4  
implementation of a system which identifies and 5  
traces livestock for purposes of controlling the 6  
outbreak of diseases in livestock populations, to 7  
ensure the wholesomeness of food products originating 8  
from livestock, and to maintain consumer confidence 9  
in the livestock industry. 10

WHEREAS, the state of Iowa, one of the major agricultural 11  
states in the United States, is a leading producer of 12  
livestock and livestock products, which represents a 13  
multibillion dollar industry; and 14

WHEREAS, the economic viability and welfare of this nation 15  
depend upon a reliable system for the production and marketing 16  
of abundant and wholesome food products, including meat, for 17  
consumers in this nation and foreign nations; and 18

WHEREAS, the intentional or accidental introduction of 19  
diseases affecting livestock populations, including bovine 20  
spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) or a virus of the family 21  
picornaviridae, genus aphthovirus (foot and mouth disease), in 22  
this country would threaten the economic viability of 23  
livestock producers and the confidence of consumers in the 24  
wholesomeness of food products at home and abroad; and 25

WHEREAS, livestock producers including Iowa producers are 26  
independently assuming leadership by actively investigating 27  
and implementing technologically advanced systems that 28  
electronically identify livestock and record the health status 29  
and location of livestock from premises of origin to 30  
slaughter; and 31

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Agriculture is in 32  
the process of considering systems necessary to preserve the 33  
integrity of this nation's food supply, which may include 34  
implementation of a national system for identifying and 35  
tracing livestock; and 1

WHEREAS, an available model for such a system is the 2  
National Farm Animal Identification and Records Program 3  
initiated and administered by the Holstein Association USA, 4  
Inc., which identifies livestock at birth with a unique 5  
identification number and premises of origin, and utilizes a 6  
database to track livestock from birth to slaughter, and which 7  
has been utilized in almost 1,400 farms to identify 8  
approximately 1 million cattle during the last five years; NOW 9  
THEREFORE, 10

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 11  
CONCURRING, That the United States Congress, in cooperation 12  
with the United States Department of Agriculture and in 13  
consultation with organizations representing livestock 14  
producers, is urged to consider strategies necessary to 15  
implement a system to ensure the security of this nation's 16  
livestock populations and to restore and maintain consumer 17  
confidence in the wholesomeness of the food supply; and 18

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this strategy incorporate a 19  
system to identify livestock from a premises of origin and to 20  
trace the movement of livestock to any premises of destination 21  
and eventually to slaughter in order to ensure that any 22  
confirmed case of disease can be immediately tracked through 23  
its chain of movement and so that exposed animals may be 24  
quarantined and tested; and 25

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution be 26  
sent by the Secretary of the Senate to the President of the 27  
United States; the United States Secretary of Agriculture; the 28  
President of the Senate of the United States; the Speaker of 29  
the House of Representatives of the United States; the 30  
Chairperson of the United States Senate Committee on 31  
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry; the Chairperson of the 32  
United States House of Representatives Committee on 33  
Agriculture; and members of Iowa's congressional delegation. 34  
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